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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/729,953	12/06/2000	Kenichiro Sato	Q62193	7258

7590

07/31/2002

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC  
2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20037-3213

EXAMINER

CHU, JOHN S Y

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1752

6

DATE MAILED: 07/31/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The request for deferral/suspension of action under 37 CFR 1.103 has been approved.

## INTERFERENCE INITIAL MEMORANDUM

Count # 1

To the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences:

An interference is proposed involving the following        parties—

PARTY <u>Nozaki</u>	APPLICATION NO. <u>09/015,287</u>	FILING DATE <u>1/29/98</u>	PATENT NO., IF ANY —	ISSUE DATE, IF ANY —
If the involved case is a patent, have its maintenance fees been paid? Yes <u>      </u> No <u>      </u> Not due yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Proposed priority benefit (list all intervening applications necessary for continuity):				
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	PATENT NO., IF ANY	ISSUE DATE, IF ANY
<u>Japan</u>	<u>9-105935</u>	<u>6/23/97</u>	—	—
The claim(s) of this party corresponding to this count:				
PATENTED OR PATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS <u>1-23</u>			UNPATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS	
The claim(s) of this party NOT corresponding to this count:				
PATENTED OR PATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS			UNPATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS	
PARTY <u>Sato et al</u>	APPLICATION NO. <u>09/729,953</u>	FILING DATE <u>2/12/98</u>	PATENT NO., IF ANY —	ISSUE DATE, IF ANY —
If the involved case is a patent, have its maintenance fees been paid? Yes <u>      </u> No <u>      </u> Not due yet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Proposed priority benefit (list all intervening applications necessary for continuity):				
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	PATENT NO., IF ANY	ISSUE DATE, IF ANY
<u>Japan</u>	<u>9-32431</u>	<u>2/17/97</u>	—	—
<u>Japan</u>	<u>9-43974</u>	<u>2/27/97</u>	—	—
<u>Japan</u>	<u>9-48056</u>	<u>3/3/97</u>	—	—
<u>Japan</u>	<u>9-53583</u>	<u>3/7/97</u>	—	—
The claim(s) of this party corresponding to this count:				
PATENTED OR PATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS <u>6-9 and 20</u>			UNPATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS	
The claim(s) of this party NOT corresponding to this count:				
PATENTED OR PATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS			UNPATENTABLE PENDING CLAIMS	
(Check off each step, if applicable) INSTRUCTIONS				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Obtain all files listed above. <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Confirm that the proposed involved claims are still active and all corrections and entered amendments have been considered. The patents must not be expired for, among other things, failure to pay a maintenance fee (Check PALM screen 2970). <input type="checkbox"/> 3. If one of the involved files is a published application or a patent, check for compliance with 35 U.S.C. 135(b). <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Obtain a certified copy of any foreign benefit documents where necessary (37 CFR 1.55(a)). <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Discuss the proposed interference with an Interference Practice Specialist in your Technology Center.				
DATE <u>7/28/02</u>	PRIMARY EXAMINER (signature) <u>John L. Ch</u>		ART UNIT <u>1752</u>	TELEPHONE NO. <u>308-2298</u>
DATE	INTERFERENCE PRACTICE SPECIALIST or TECHNOLOGY CENTER DIRECTOR (signature)			TELEPHONE NO.



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER
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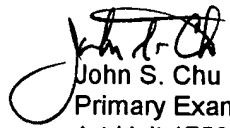
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DATE MAILED:

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

All claims are allowable, wherein none of the prior art references of record in the parent case disclose or claim the photoresist composition comprising a lactone structure of (I-2) or (II-3) as recited in claims 6 and 7. However due to a potential interference, ex parte prosecution is **SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS** from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

  
John S. Chu  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1752